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## MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHOIR SINGERS

One Church in New York Spends \$50,000 Every Year for Its Music.

## A TEMPORARY AID TO SOME

Gives Financial Assistance to Students Pursuing Musical Studies—Competition Here Is Exceedingly Keen.

Every hour of the day and almost of the night there comes into New York half a dozen trains each loaded with its burden of human beings. Among the passengers of every coach there will be one or more who have come to this great city to try their luck in gaining a foothold in America's metropolis. Not a few of these adventurers are planning to reach success in musical lines.

Various estimates have been made of the number of young men and women who are studying music here. The numbers go to the thousands. They come here either to make up a final course of instruction in some of the many musical schools or they are already finished musicians, some of them products of the best European masters and are waiting for the golden opportunity which they feel is awaiting them in the big city.

When they reach this city they find that the competition is keen and that the way they had hoped to find strewn with roses is a very difficult one to travel. They find that it takes not only talent but perseverance to succeed. Some of the singers may find that the stage offers them the best field for their abilities while others will make their bid for concert work. The church choir has proved for many a stepping stone to musical success in New York.

Americans who are spiritually impressed by the fine music in their churches may not realize that the providing of this music has become a well established business, says *Musical America*. When it is known that one New York church makes an annual appropriation of \$50,000 for its music, one can see the reason for religious methods in this branch of religious work. It is not to be supposed that the above amount is actually expended for the choir and organist; the church simply gives its music committee carte blanche to that amount.

The maximum expenditure for a year's music in any New York church is about \$20,000. This figure is reached by very few churches. As a matter of fact, the salary paid to choir singers is a subject for unintentional exaggeration. In estimating such salaries people forget that the church singer is paid for but one day's work in the week, and they credit him with a salary which would be adequate for a man whose work occupied at least six days out of seven.

It is doubtful if many choir singers in New York receive more than \$1,500 a year. There are scores of successful artists whose salaries for church singing are \$1,000 per annum, and \$800 is a fair estimate of the compensation received by singers of acknowledged ability. In this statement there must be a reckoning of the summer vacation, when the singer's salary still continues.

Figuring out a \$1,500 salary on the basis of forty-four Sundays of actual singing in a year gives about \$35 for an hour's singing once a week. This is not enough for the singer to live on, but it is a fixed income and it leaves the rest of the week for engagements which may be less steady, but which are more lucrative. The natural outlet for the vocal activities of the church singer is the concert field. A later development is the singing for talking machine records, which is at once steady and lucrative, owing to the regular retaining fee paid by the company with which the artist has a contract.

It is a significant fact that the big choir salaries are not found in New York, but in Pittsburgh. There is one church in the city of smoke which has an \$1,800 soprano and a \$2,000 tenor on its list of singers.

At this time of the year the choir business is at its height, for the contracts of the various singers expire in May. The early spring months are therefore the occasion for a general readjustment of the personnel of the various choirs to the satisfaction of the singers and the church officers. The entire conduct of a church's music is placed in the hands of the music committee. This is composed of a number of business men who are confessedly non-experts in musical affairs. For their guidance necessity has created a class of musical managers whose entire work is in the church field.

Among these specialized agents are several whose work consists of placing singers in church positions, for which service they receive 5 per cent. of the artist's salary for the first year, as prescribed by law. The agent keeps in constant touch with the situation in the numerous churches, realizing that the music committees must get satisfactory results with the appropriation that is put in their hands, or else they will have to make the "referendum" and recall.

"To make good in church work," declared A. B. Patton a few days ago, "a singer must have the same qualities which make for success in any other field. In addition to the voice and the training, he must have personal magnetism. A man who can sing a gospel hymn effectively is a real artist." Geraldine Farrar, Olive Fremstad, Emma Eames, Lillian Nordica and Marie Rappold formerly did church work, as well as Maria Wittkowska, who is with the Chicago Opera Company.

In addition to their quartet choirs several of the metropolitan churches have large choruses of soloists, as in the case of St. Bartholomew's.

Church. With Arthur S. Hyde as choir-master this choir body dispenses excellent music throughout the season, as well as during the summer months, when the church is a haven of refuge for those who are trying New York as a summer resort.

Choir singing is an invaluable training for a musical career. Not only does the church singer keep his voice in constant condition, but also he acquires a varied repertoire which fits him for singing any type of music at short notice. Singing in church demands an absolute spirit of devotion to the work, which is in itself a valuable incentive to a singer.

## RESTAURANTS WELL EQUIPPED.

Caters to New York's Palate Careful to Meet Guests' Needs.

One of the first things a visitor to New York is anxious to see is the restaurant life of the city. He has heard of the wonderful eating places that are to be found in the metropolis, and he first night in town will find him ready to learn something at first hand of the way the restaurateur provides for his guests.

If he leaves his hotel early in the evening, he will find the restaurants well filled with people who are planning to attend the theatre or concert and who prefer having their dinner in a restaurant to preparing it at home.

After the two score theatres of New York have closed for the night there is a somewhat different crowd filling the restaurants. They will be people who have come for an after theatre lunch and are anxious to see and be seen. They have dropped into enjoy the music at the restaurants and have a look at the dresses. An evening at the theatre would not be complete without a visit to an eating place.

The builder of restaurants has realized the wants of his patrons and has prepared his place accordingly. No pains have been spared on the decorations. Painters and decorators, some of them with international reputations, have been requisitioned to make New York's restaurants attractive. Each place strives for individuality.

It costs many thousands of dollars to redecorate a big restaurant, yet it is frequently done by proprietors who believe that their guests will be pleased with a change in their surroundings.

Each restaurant is likely to have its own clientele of men and women who come there at regular intervals. The head waiter knows who the regular guests are and frequently knows most of them by name. He can welcome each one and make special efforts to see that each has the seat he prefers. This gives the patron a sense of ownership. He feels that his patronage is appreciated and he comes again. That is what the proprietor wants and counts on for the mainstay of his business.

## Was Thrown Up by the Sea.

From *Harper's Weekly*.

Nehalem wax is the name given a somewhat mysterious product found on the beach near the mouth of the Nehalem River in Oregon.

It was observed by the early explorers of that coast. Later considerable deposits were found in the sand of the beach. In 1846 several tons of this queer waxlike substance were shipped to Hawaii, and since then many tons of it have been sent to northwestern markets.

Opinion is divided concerning the nature and origin of this substance. Some hold that it is beeswax and others contend that it is a mineral substance called ozocerite. It is usually found in large rectangular blocks. It has a honey-like aroma when freshly cut. Examination made in the laboratory of a Western university shows that the substance closely approaches beeswax in composition, and does not accord with the properties of ozocerite.

This conclusion, oddly enough, favors an Indian legend of the area of a ship at the mouth of the Nehalem before the coming of the white men. A Spanish ship with supplies for the Catholic missionaries in the north sailed from Lower California in 1769 and was never afterward heard from.

## How Fish Are Marked and Studied.

From the *London Evening Standard*.

It seemed a hopeless business to mark a place, put it back into the sea and expect ever to see it again. But out of 1,463 places marked and liberated 257 were recaptured within a year. The fish were marked by means of a number of metal disks, secured by silver wire, which does not damage the fish in any way. The fishermen all around our coasts know all about this, and receive 2s. for each marked fish captured. The fishermen display the greatest enthusiasm in capturing the fish. In noting in what conditions of time, place, depth, etc., they are taken.

In this way the association can follow the growth of place and note their habits in many ways. One fish, for instance, was found to have travelled 175 miles in three months and another 210 miles in eight months.

Capt. Horner, who was despatched from Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., to New Madrid, Mo., Wednesday, reported that town on account of the flood. He reports the situation as follows: "The Mayor of New Madrid has wired that the food supplies will be exhausted within a few days."

## Yellow Writing Paper Easy on Eyes.

From the *Youth's Companion*.

Oculists have often called attention to the fact that the eyes are easily fatigued on the reflection from white paper, especially when the light is under a strong light. Since green is known to be the color most restful to the eyes, it is a common practice to use wall papers and draperies of that color in libraries and private studies. For writing paper, however, green is too disagreeable. It imparts a reddish appearance to the writing, and makes it hard to read. The same objection, in strong daylight it is softer than pure white paper, and in artificial light it is less fatiguing. Letters on a yellowish background show clear and distinct. Many mathematicians use yellow paper in writing long and difficult calculations, and many writers have adopted it for manuscripts. It has the additional merit of cheapness.

## LUMBER TRADE FOURTH LARGEST IN AMERICA

Capital of \$8,000,000,000 Involved and 500,000 Workers on Payrolls.

## HAS THREE MAIN DIVISIONS

Logging, Sawing and Planing Are Chief Operations in Handling of Timber.

The lumber business of the United States is ranked as fourth largest among the great manufacturing enterprises in the country, representing an outlay of capital amounting to \$8,000,000,000, employing 500,000 wage earners and producing 35,000,000,000 feet of lumber a year.

It is divided into three main heads or divisions for the cutting and the handling of the timber, namely logging camps, sawmills and planing mills that cut either hard woods or soft woods, depending upon the location of the territory in which the cutting is done and the species of timber upon the land on which operations are carried on. In the northern forests in Canada the main wood cut for commercial uses is the common white pine, a species found in the Eastern States and extending along the great lakes to Minnesota. In the Southern States and extreme Western States hard woods are found.

The operations of a logging camp are full of interest to the uninitiated and the life led by loggers is one that demands the highest physical qualities.

When a new tract of timber land has been bought and it is intended to operate mills for timber, the company sends its cruisers and engineers to the forests to determine the quality of timber and species of trees to be found and also the water power or other means by which the timber has to be transported to the mills. The mill's location is an important feature and it is generally situated at the head of a river which is navigable and open to vessels.

The cruisers spend several months in the territory, estimating the quantity of wood it contains, so that a lumbering concern knows to within a few thousand feet in a cursory examination, and to within a few hundred feet board measure in a detailed examination, just how much sawed and planed wood it can contract for.

Mills are then set up, governed by the producing capacity necessary, and the first of the logging operations are begun.

Maps are made of the territory which is to be cut and a mill manager knows just how much wood of a certain kind there is to be found in a tract that he can cut. It is the rule of modern cutting methods that the first timber taken off is that situated near the waterways, because it is easy to float out at any season of the year when the stream is clear of ice.

If it has been decided to cut a tract of a certain number of acres inland, experienced woodmen are sent out to determine the nature of the ground on which the timber stands and the means necessary to cart it down to the stream, from whence it is to be floated to the mill.

In some cases it is necessary to build a wooden railway. Should it be found too expensive to build a railroad the timber is not cut until the winter, and then, as each tree is felled, it is sketched down to the banks of the logging stream, remaining there until the river breaks in the spring.

The skidway, however, is one of the simplest and most useful devices. It consists of a series of small logs that are useless commercially, laid on the ground in such a fashion that other logs can be slid along the top of them.

Nowadays, however, a new era has dawned in the art of handling logs over long distance hauls. With the advent of the traction engine long hauls of twenty or thirty miles are made comparatively easy. The logs are chained and the powerful engine drags them along the ground up almost any gradient, which would be impossible for horses hauling on a properly constructed skidway.

Where water power is not available a steam log skidding system is much in use. It consists of a hauling engine with a drum and several thousand feet of strong wire cable, to the end of which the logs are attached and drawn along to the required point.

Where the timber is situated on slopes and there is water close at hand, the logs are "snaked" down; that is, sent recklessly down the slope of the hill after being first started at the top on a small skidway.

At the water base of each area which is being cut, the logs are held until the driving season begins. Then the logs with the aid of peakies and bill hooks are driven into the stream and boomed for the drive. When the spring freshets have swollen the river they are released from the boom and allowed to float down stream. Should the river be still, the logs are rafted and towed to the mill.

One of the spectacular features in lumbering is the log drive, for the operation is the most dangerous in the business.

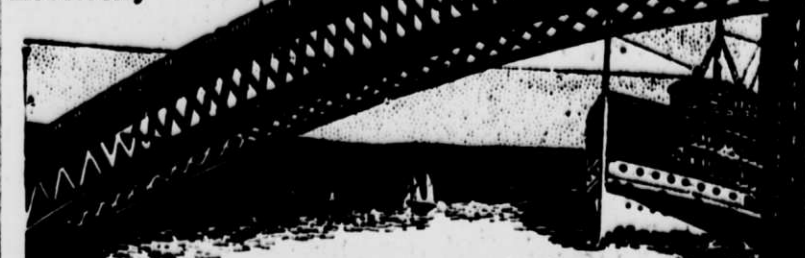
The handling of logs in a river is picturesque and at the same time a dangerous operation for at times, especially near a rapid or narrow channel, the logs are apt to jam. As soon as the jam begins the logs pile one on top of another until in some cases the water is dammed. This is the time when the daring and experience of the lumberjack is called into play. There are always one or two logs which are the keynote of the jam.

The men rush to the pile of grinding, crashing logs and with their peakies strive to dislodge the "stinker" or key log of the jam, as it is called in Canada. As soon as the log shows signs of giving way, the men rush for their lives to the shore, jumping from log to log until safety is reached. Oftentimes, the "stinker" will give suddenly and the whole jam, weighing hundreds of tons, will descend on the men, crushing them to death or sweeping them to a watery grave. Most of the accidents in lumber camps are due mainly to these log jams.

It is nothing uncommon for the drivers to be dripping wet for two weeks at a time, during which period they have never a thought of changing their attire for the very simple reason that it is not usual for lumberjacks to carry more than one suit of clothes, and that on their backs. The usual drying out takes place every night when the drive for the day is over and the logs boomed, when the men get together round an enormous campfire and can scarcely be seen for the mist rising out of their clothes.

In a mountainous region, where the speed of the extractions prevents the transportation of logs by methods employed in the great timber countries of the north and middle West, a timber boom or channel artificially constructed of wood and rough shaped is used to art the

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logs down to the plains. Into these flumes, which are supplied with water from a stream or waterfall, the logs are dumped, gravity and the strength of the current doing the rest. In the Big Tree district of California a flume seventy miles in length is employed to shuttle the logs and was built at a cost of \$230,000. In sections of Louisiana, where most of the timber grows in swamps and swampy lands, pull boats are employed to bring the logs into the booms by means of endless chains and winding drums.

Revolution Helped Cotton Manufacture. From the *Pekin Daily News*. Revolutions are not always "good for trade" at the outset, but the Chinese one has made the fortune, so it is being said, of at least one cotton manufacturer.

A Parisian who has been "in the know" for the last two years has been accumulating stocks of standards and flags of all sizes. He is now exporting Republican emblems by thousands to the partisans of Sun Yat Sen.

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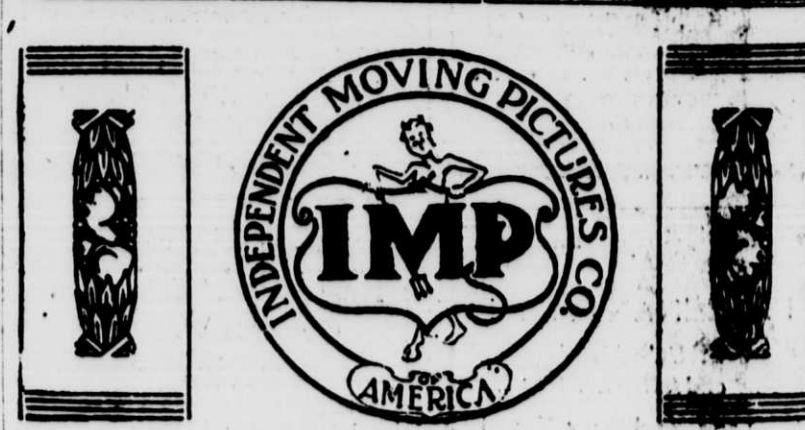
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